

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 7-12 and 14-17, as amended, remain in this application for the Examiner's review and consideration. The claims have been amended to more clearly define the scope of protection sought by the present application. In particular, claims 1, 3, 9 and 10 have been amended to recite that the aging factor associated with the time-based weight is a rate of decay. Claims 1 and 9 have been amended to correct the misspelling of "second" as "section". Support for these amendments can be found in the specification as originally filed, in particular on page 10, lines 7-10. As these amendments do not introduce any new matter into the above identified application, their entry at this time is warranted.

Claims 1-5, 7-12 and 14-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as failing to comply with the written description requirement. In particular, it was asserted that, according to the specification, assigning an aging factor was not related to the time-based weight. As described in the specification on page 10, the time based weighed has associated with it an weighing policy that expresses the relationship between age and importance. This is a factor that takes into account how the weight changes over time or ages, which is an aging factor. As was recited in claim 3, the aging factor was an exponential decay rate. In order to avoid confusion and to advance the present application to allowance, the claims have been amended for the purposes of clarification to substitute the analogous term rate of decay for aging factor. Therefore, Applicant asserts that this rejection has been overcome.

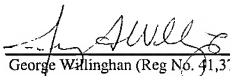
Claims 1-5, 7 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph because of the misspelling of "the section portion". Claims 1 and 9 have been amended to correct this misspelling. Therefore, Applicant asserts that this rejection has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

Applicant asserts that all claims are now in condition for allowance, early notification of which is respectfully requested. A petition for a two month extension of time for the filing of this submission and a Request for Continuing Examination along with the prescribed fee is enclosed herewith. In addition, payment of the prescribed fee for the submission of a Request for Continuing Examination is included concurrently with the filing of this submission. As the

present amendments do not introduce any new claims above the original number of filed claims, no fees are believed due for the submission of this amendment. No other fees are believed due.

Respectfully submitted,

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George Willingham (Reg No. 41,377)
Attorney for Applicant
P.O. Box 19080
Baltimore, MD 21284
410-832-8801